



BROADFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Homework Policy

Date of approval: October 2016
Due for Review: October 2019
Committee: School Improvement

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Signed:

Date:

Position:

The purpose of homework

As a child progresses through primary school, homework has some or all of the following purposes depending on the age of the child and format of the homework. At Broadfield we believe that homework should:

- Consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding learnt in school;
- Extend school learning, for example through additional reading;
- Provide opportunities for children to use out of school resources (e.g. books and Information Technology) found in the home or other places such as libraries;
- Foster the partnership between the school and parents;
- Help develop the confidence and self-discipline the child needs to study on their own.

Aims and responsibilities

Mindful of the above purposes of homework, our aims in setting homework are to:

- Give children further practice of the skills and concepts learnt during the school day;
- Extend and support the learning experiences in school via reinforcement and revision;
- Provide opportunities to use and apply concepts learnt in school;
- Enable parents to share in their child's education in partnership with the school;
- Provide progression towards independence and individual responsibility to prepare the children for transfer to secondary school;
- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.

The school, parents and pupils each have responsibilities regarding homework. These are as follows:

School is responsible for setting homework appropriate to the child's age and ability.

Parents are responsible for providing their child with time, space, encouragement and support with any homework they have including hearing their child read and assisting in the learning of spellings.

Pupils are responsible for undertaking any homework set and remembering to take home and return to school all books and equipment needed to undertake their homework.

The type and amount of homework

A regular pattern of homework is set for each year group, so that both pupils and parents are clear on what is expected each week.

Guidelines:

- Homework tasks will be carefully planned and structured to support children's progression in learning.
- The set homework each week is likely to include reading, spellings, learning logs and maths work.
- 'Finishing off' work due to lack of effort in class may need to be done in addition to the set homework.
- Class work missed due to absence will not be sent home as additional homework.
- The school does not set homework if a child is absent on Thursday and Friday.

- Homework is not set for holiday periods, as it is important for families to have quality time together. Activity suggestions may be made for holiday periods and children can choose whether or not to complete them.

Marking and feedback

Each week pupils receive appropriate feedback on their homework. This may be through:

- Individual comments with areas for improvement
- Reviewing their work in small groups or with a partner
- Pink ticks for correct answers, green dots for corrections

Spellings in homework may be commented upon if they are key vocabulary, but not every spelling will be corrected. The children may be given rewards such as house points for completing their homework to a high standard. Teachers will speak to children individually about homework not handed in. Parents may also be contacted. Not completing homework could lead to children in KS2 (Year 3 - Year 6) receiving a detention.

Year 6 parents are required to sign a homework diary at the end of each week to acknowledge that their child has completed the set tasks. This is to prepare pupils for secondary school where this is standard practice.

Homework schedule

	Weekly Schedule
Reception	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily reading • Weekly homework book (<i>linked to current learning and supported by parents e.g. finding objects at home that begin with a particular sound</i>).
Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily reading • Learning logs once a week • Maths booklet once a week (after Autumn ½ term). • Weekly spellings
Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily reading • Learning logs once a week • Maths booklet once a week • Weekly spellings
Year 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily reading • Learning logs once a week • Maths booklet once a week • Weekly spellings
Year 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily reading • Learning logs once a week • Maths booklet once a week • Weekly spellings
Year 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily reading • Learning logs once a week • Maths booklet once a week • Weekly spellings

Year 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Daily reading - 20 minutes silently• Maths questions once a week• Weekly spellings• Grammar activity linked to spellings once a week
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Learning logs

Learning logs are a proven way of enhancing learning through homework. It is a whole school approach which encourages independent learning. Each week the teacher sets a task, which is worded as 'Show me what you know about...'. Children choose how to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding e.g. writing, pictures, diagrams, tables or printed information/photos. They should only use **one page** of their learning log to give them experience of working within boundaries.

To enable children to successfully complete their learning log to a high standard, parents are encouraged to talk through the task with their child and share ideas. Children should then be encouraged to work independently. When the child feels they have completed their learning log task, it is helpful for them to share it with their parents who should check the quality and quantity.

Learning logs go home on **Thursday** and should be returned by **Tuesday**.

Spellings

Spellings are sent home weekly. These are a useful way to enhance children's accuracy with spelling. The number of spellings vary depending on children's age and stage of development. Parents are expected to help their child to learn their spellings each week. Teachers will check that children are secure with the spellings the following week using a test or dictation where the children are asked to write the words within sentences.

Class teachers will inform parents when spellings go home, as the days vary between classes and year groups.

Reading books

In most year groups, children have the opportunity to change their school reading book daily if they have read. Reception classes change their books twice a week, however we encourage them to read their books repeatedly to get use to the language patterns.

Parents are asked to sign the reading diary to indicate their child has read their book. A little and often approach is best for developing reading skills and we encourage children to **read every day** at home. The minimum expectation is that all children read three times a week. Teachers may speak with parents if children regularly read less often than this.

Most children will need to read out loud to their parent, however once they become fluent readers they should have the opportunity to read silently to themselves as well. Parents are still encouraged to ask children questions about the text afterwards.

Maths booklets

Each child from Year 1 to Year 5 has a mental workout maths book. It is designed to support them with calculations, fluency and rapid recall using the full range of mathematical operations. It also familiarises them with a range of mathematical vocabulary.

Each week, the children will complete one exercise from the book. There are three levels - start up, into gear and tough challenge. Children are encouraged to complete as much as they can.

It will be brought home on **Thursday** and should be returned to school on **Tuesday**. Parents are encouraged to see the class teacher if their child is finding the work set either too easy or too hard.

Homework club

We offer homework club on **Thursdays** after school from 3.15pm - 4.00pm. Children can complete their homework in a quiet and supportive environment, supervised by school staff. Parents must fill in a form at the office if they wish their child to attend. Even if a child has completed their homework at homework club, we request that parents still check the content and quality of the work before their child hands it in.

Review and evaluation

Governors and senior leaders will monitor the homework policy and obtain feedback from pupils, parents and teachers on its implementation and effectiveness. The homework policy will be reviewed and evaluated in relation to the following categories:

- The type and amount of homework
- Completion of tasks to a satisfactory standard
- Support of parents
- Progress made by pupils
- Pupils' attitude to home learning